

We claim:

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1. A dividing wall column comprising as segments

- 10           a) an upper column region,  
             b) an inflow section,  
             c) an offtake section and  
             d) a lower column region,

15           where the inflow section b) and the offtake  
             section c) are separated from one another  
             laterally by a dividing wall fixed in the column  
             and the dividing wall is located between the upper  
             column region a) and the lower column region d),  
20           wherein the dividing wall is constructed at least  
             partly of an elastic material, the dividing wall  
             has a slightly overdimensional width and the  
             dividing wall is fixed in the column by the  
             dividing wall exercising an elastic recovery force  
             on the interior wall of the column.

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2. A dividing wall column as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein the dividing wall is constructed entirely  
of an elastic material.

30 3. A dividing wall column as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein the dividing wall is a strip manufactured  
in one piece.

35 4. A dividing wall column as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein the material of which the dividing wall is  
constructed comprises plastic, preferably poly-  
tetrafluoroethylene.

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